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MEMORANDUM

TO: Business Managers, VASBO, Superintendents, VSBA
FROM: Rebecca Holcombe, Secretary of Education
SUBJECT: Transportation Costs and Act 153 of 2010
DATE: April 8, 2015

I am writing to clarify some recurring questions that we have received in response to my memorandum dated January 8, 2015, regarding consolidation of transportation services at the SU level, pursuant to Act 153 of 2010.

Transportation to Athletic Events and Field Trips

Ancillary transportation costs are not captured by state transportation aid. This includes costs for busing students to athletic events and field trips. These costs are not "to/from" school (and technical center) transportation costs. Accordingly, these costs do not have to be shifted to the SU level under the Act 153 transportation consolidation requirement.

"To/From" School (and Technical Center) Transportation Costs

State transportation aid covers "to/from school" (and technical center) transportation costs for students. These costs must be shifted to the SU budget. There is no longer any district level provision of these services under state law (except for SDs). Act 153 repealed district level provision of "to/from school" (and technical center) transportation services.

Special Education Transportation Costs

Special education transportation costs must be captured as a special education cost paid for at the SU level. While these costs may be incurred on an as needed basis, they relate directly to the provision of special education services. Therefore, these costs must shift to SU budgets consistent with Act 153 of 2010. The only exception is cases where (i) a waiver has been obtained from the Secretary or (ii) negotiations remain ongoing between an SU and the SU level bargaining unit for licensed special education staff.

Please contact Vaughn Altemus at 802-479-1744 with any questions.